

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): William I. Chang
Assignee: Affini, Inc.
Title: System and Method for providing an open Email Directory
Serial No.: 10/814,010 Filing Date: March 30, 2004
Examiner: G. Bengzon Group Art Unit: 2144
Docket No.: M-15352 US Conf. No.: 5563

San Jose, California
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, the documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 are called to the attention of the Examiner for the above patent application.

Citation of these documents shall not be construed as:

- (1) an admission that the documents are necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention;
- (2) a representation that a search has been made, other than as described above; or
- (3) an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be material to patentability.

Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- ☒ Form PTO-1449 (*Substitute*). The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- ☒ A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (*except where otherwise indicated*).

Complete copies are not submitted of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications per 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(ii), and copies are not submitted of documents already cited or submitted in a parent application from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed per 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).

This statement should be considered because:

- ☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:
- ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
-- OR --
 - ☐ It is being filed within 3 months of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application;
-- OR --
 - ☐ It is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action *on the merits*;
-- OR --
 - ☐ It is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action *after the filing of an RCE under §1.114*.


whichever occurs last.

- ☒ Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:
- (1) It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action and before a Notice of Allowance or another action closing prosecution (whichever occurs first);
-- AND (*check at least one of the following*) --
 - ☒ (1) It is accompanied by the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p);
-- OR --
 - ☐ (2) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), each item of information contained in the information disclosure Statement was first cited in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
 - ☐ (3) That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

- ☐ Although it may not qualify under subsections (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:

- (1) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), each item of information contained in the information disclosure Statement was first cited in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;
-- AND --
- (2) It is accompanied by the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p);
-- AND --
- (3) It is filed on or before payment of the Issue Fee.

- ☒ **Fee Authorization.** The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee(s), charge any underpayment of fee(s), or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 08-1394.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF EFS-WEB TRANSMISSION</p> <p>Certificate of Transmission: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) via the USPTO's EFS-Web electronic filing system on August 19, 2009.</p> <p>Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate:</p> <p>Jon Y. Ikegami</p> <p>Signature  _____</p>

Respectfully submitted,



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